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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/621,702	07/17/2003	Steven P. Anonsen	M61.12-0553	1519
27366	7590	03/07/2006	EXAMINER	
WESTMAN CHAMPLIN (MICROSOFT CORPORATION)			FLEURANTIN, JEAN B	
SUITE 1400 - INTERNATIONAL CENTRE			ART UNIT	
900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH			PAPER NUMBER	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3319			2162	
DATE MAILED: 03/07/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/621,702	Applicant(s) ANONSEN ET AL.	
	Examiner JEAN B. FLEURANTIN	Art Unit 2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the application filed on 7/17/03.
 - i.) Claims 1-55 are presented for examination.
 - ii.) The document (Letter to Official Draftsperson) filed 8/21/04 has been entered.

Election/Restrictions

2. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

Species: Claim(s) 1, drawn to an AdHocQueryCriteria to specify a query of data in a relational database, which including an entityAliasList parameter; a JoinList parameter; a selectList parameter; a whereExpression parameter; and an orderByList parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 2-5, drawn to an operator to specify the arithmetic operation, which including a left parameter indicating an item to a left of an arithmetic operator; a right parameter indicating an item to a right of the arithmetic operator; and the method returning an ArithmeticExpression parameter based on the operator and the left and right parameters.

Species: Claim(s) 6, drawn to an operator to implement arithmetic operations, which including a left parameter indicating-an item to a left of an arithmetic operator; a right parameter indicating an item to a right of the arithmetic operator; and the method returning a BooleanExpression parameter based on the operator and the left and right parameters.

Species: Claim(s) 7-9, drawn to an AssignmentExpression to represent an expression to be assigned to a property of an entity.

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Species: Claim(s) 10, drawn to a CollectionCriteria to specify a collection query of data in a relational database, which including an entityCollectionType parameter; an entityAliasList parameter; a JoinList parameter; a whereExpression parameter; and an orderByList parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 11-17, drawn to an AdHocQueryCriteria based on a plurality of received parameters, which including an entityAliasList parameter; and a SelectList parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 18-20, drawn to a CollectionCriteria based on a received parameter, which including an entityAlias parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 21-25, drawn to a CollectionCriteria based on at least one received parameter, which including an entityAlias parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 26-37, drawn to a CollectionCriteria based on at least one received parameter, which including an entityAliasList parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 38-40, drawn to an EntityAlias based on at least one received parameter, which including a parentKey parameter; and an entityType parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 41, drawn to an EntityAliases based on at least one received parameter, which including an entityAliases parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 42, drawn to an EntityCriteria based on at least one received parameter, which including an entityKey parameter.

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Species: Claim(s) 43, drawn to an EntityCriteria based on at least one received parameter, which including an entityAlias parameter; and a whereExpression parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 44 and 45, drawn to an EntityCriteria based on at least one received parameter, which including an entityAliasList parameter; and a whereExpression parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 46 and 47, drawn to an EntitySetUpdateCriteria based on at least one received parameter, which including an entityAliasList parameter; and a propertyAssignmentList.

Species: Claim(s) 48 and 49, drawn to a JoinExpression based on at least one received parameter, which including a leftEntityAlias parameter; a rightEntityAlias parameter; and a boolExpression parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 50, drawn to an OrderByList parameter based on at least one received parameter, which including an arguments parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 51 and 52, drawn to an OrderByExpression parameter based on at least one received parameter, which including a property parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 53, drawn to a JoinExpression parameter based on at least one received parameter, which including a leftEntityAlias parameter; a rightEntityAlias parameter; and a boolExpression parameter.

Species: Claim(s) 54, drawn to an entityAliasList parameter based on at least one received parameter, which including a joinList parameter; a whereExpression parameter; and an orderByList parameter.

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Species: Claim(s) 55, drawn to a join operation, based on at least one received parameter, which including a `joinType` parameter; a `leftEntityAlias` parameter; a `rightEntityAlias` parameter; and a `booleanExpression` parameter.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claims are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even through the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143)

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Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claim(s) to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under C.F.R. 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i).

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CONTACT INFORMATION

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEAN B. FLEURANTIN whose telephone number is 571 – 272-4035. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:05 to 4:35.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN E BREENE can be reached on 571 – 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

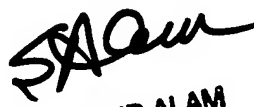


Jean Bolte Fleurantin

Patent Examiner

Technology Center 2100

February 26, 2005



SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER